GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4867
ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011
FOREST TOURISM
Biju Shri P. K.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is huge potential for forest, wildlife and plantation tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds earmarked/released to the State Government during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to exploit the tourism potential in States?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI)

(a) & (b): Development and promotion of tourism including forest, wildlife and plantation tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development of tourism products under the scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits, based on the proposals identified in consultation with them, subject to availability of funds inter-se priority and adherence to scheme guidelines.

(c): An amount of Rs.2405.59 crore was sanctioned as CFA for 720 tourism projects including forest, wildlife and plantation projects during the years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 to the different State Governments/UTs Administration.

(d): The steps taken by the Government to promote tourism products including forest, wildlife and plantation tourism in the country include inter- alia Incredible India campaigns, production of promotional material like brochures, CDs, films, and by participation in travel marts and road shows.